

(c) The Ministry of Coal is monitoring the implementation of these delayed projects. the Ministry and coal companies follow-up with the concerned State Governments in expediting pending land cases and also with equipment manufacturers to ensure early supply/commissioning of equipment. For providing adequate funds for the on-going projects, coal companies have taken steps to mobilise resources through internal generation, Supplier's Credit and external borrowings. For projects where cost overrun takes place, item-wise cost increases alongwith reasons thereof are examined in depth at the time of formulation of revised cost estimates which are approved by the competent authority.

[Translation]

Electric Railway Engines by BHEL

3129 DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :

SHRI SOHAN BEER :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electric railway engines manufactured by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited till date;

(b) whether the Government contemplate to enhance the production capacity of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the target fixed for manufacturing electric engines during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The number of Electric Railway Engines (Electric Locos) manufactured by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL) till 07.03.97 is 102.

(b) to (d) The present production capacity of BHEL is 30 Electric Railway Engines (Electric Locos) per year. The enhancement of their capacity depends on the requirement of the customer viz., the Indian Railways. As per the present capacity, BHEL can manufacture 150 Electric Engines (Electric Locos) during Ninth Five Year Plan period.

[English]

Gold Smuggling

3130. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a spurt in gold smuggling during recent years through the Airport in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details of gold seized from different airport in Kerala during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) Seizures statistics and intelligence reports indicate an increase in attempt to smuggle small quantities of gold at airports in

Kerala by passengers returning from abroad.

(b) The details of gold seized at the airports in Kerala during last three years are as under :-

Year	No. of cases	Value of seizure (Rs. in Lakhs)
1994-95	323	384.72
1995-96	989	956.00
1996-97	1254	1210.05

[Translation]

Court Decisions

3131. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a large number of cases are lying pending in various courts;

(b) if so, the policy of the Government to dispose of such cases out of court; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government launched an Arrears Clearance Quarter, commencing from 2nd October, 1996. Every District Judge in the country was requested to organise atleast one Lok Adalat on 2nd October, 1996 and, thereafter, as many Lok Adalats as may be possible during the said quarter, holding atleast one Lok Adalat on every Saturday/Sunday. Further, Lok Adalats were recommended at every taluka level also. In addition, Nyaya Panchayats, and other alternative methods of dispute resolution are also being made use of.

[English]

Potable Alcohol

3132. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently given approval to M/s. Bacardi International and M/s. Pernod Ricard for manufacturing potable alcohol from molasses;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the views of the Ministry of Food Processing were taken into account before arriving at a decision; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?